

RWDSU

record

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Sept. 24, 1961

## **RWDSU Opens National Boycott Of Struck American Optical Co.**

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American  
Optical  
Company

UNFAIR

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## **New England RWDSUers Set Fast Organizing Pace**

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## **5,000 in New York Drug Stores Race**

### ***Contract Deadline of Sept. 30***

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# New UAW Pact with GM Nets Biggest Wage Gains Since '46

DETROIT, Mich.—The United Automobile Workers has won a three-year contract that brings its 310,000 members at General Motors very close to a guaranteed annual wage, the UAW's long-time goal. The contract has been termed the best one the UAW has negotiated since 1946.

Pres. Walter Reuther, announcing the terms of the contract with the nation's largest auto manufacturer, said that the union had sought answers to the human problems and job insecurity that were characteristic of the auto industry.

"We were looking for answers to serious problems," Reuther said.

The UAW won a package estimated at 30 cents an hour and important improvements in working conditions in the agreement, which covers employees at GM's 129 plants across the country. The company and the union reached a basic agreement on economic issues Sept. 6, but disputes over individual plant issues brought on a number of walkouts. At press-time, 59 plants employing 176,500 workers were still shut down; in-plant issues had been settled at the corporation's 70 other plants, and 133,500 UAW members were on the job at GM.

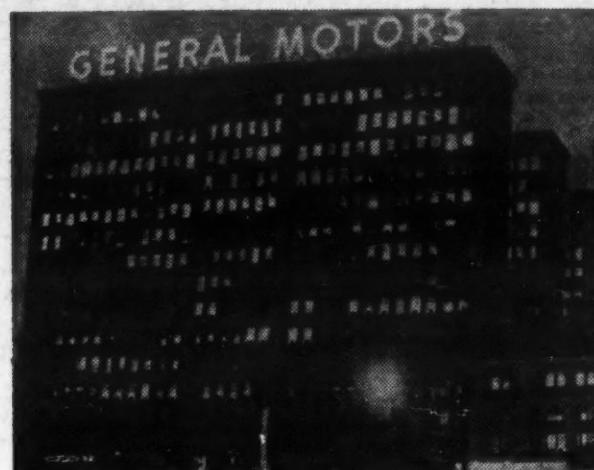
The union's negotiations with Ford, which have been continuing since June, and with Chrysler, the nation's second and third largest car makers respectively, were expected to follow the GM pattern.

## 26 Cents Over Three Years

In the GM pact, the UAW won wage increases expected to average seven cents each of the three years plus an extra nickel the first year, due to the company's paying the full cost of medical and hospital insurance, as well as increased job security and greater protection against unemployment. Major features of the contract include:

- Supplemental Unemployment Benefit (SUB) maximum was raised from \$30 to \$40 weekly while the maximum duration was extended from 26 weeks (in most states) to 52 weeks. The SUB benefits, combined with an unemployed worker's state compensation, will provide the worker with nearly 80 percent of his previous take-home pay. He will also receive a weekly allowance of \$1.50 for each dependent, up to \$6 maximum.

- Short work week benefits, providing 65 percent of a worker's wages for any hours less than 40 worked in a week.



LIGHTS BURN BRIGHTLY in General Motors building in Detroit as Auto Workers and company negotiators work until wee hours hammering out agreement.

- A moving allowance for workers transferred to other GM plants more than 50 miles away. The maximum allowance is \$580.

- The UAW contract also provides improved pension, disability and early retirement benefits and increased hospitalization and surgical coverage, both for current and retiring employees.

In the non-economic area, the new contract includes an anti-discrimination clause; limitations on work that foremen may perform in hourly-rated jobs; an agreement by GM to give advance notice, when possible, of plans for overtime work; a non-speedup clause; and a provision that workers have the right to be represented by a UAW committeeman in presenting grievances.

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### Note on Change of Address

When sending in a change of address to The Record, please make sure to include your old address as well as the new, and your local's number.

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# Jobless Insurance Benefits Don't Cover Necessities, Government Survey Shows

WASHINGTON—Unemployment insurance benefits for the head of a family of four fail to cover even such absolute necessities as food, shelter, clothing, utilities and medical care, a study of benefit adequacy by the Labor Dept.'s Bureau of Employment Security has shown.

Labor Sec. Arthur J. Goldberg, in forwarding a copy of the study to Rep. Wilbur D. Mills (D-Ark.), chairman of the House Ways & Means committee, urged that it be included in the record of any hearings on benefit improvement.

Pres. Kennedy last June urged Congress to give the system a major overhaul that would establish federal standards and eventually increase the maximum benefit level to two-thirds of the average weekly wage in each state. So far, no hearings have been scheduled on bills incorporating his proposals.

Although the BES study is based on surveys in six states between 1954 and 1958, subsequent experience generally indicates that unemployment insurance payments are still woefully inadequate," Goldberg wrote.

## Half of Expenses Met

"In none of the surveys made did the average weekly benefit cover as much as half of the average weekly outlay for all expenses on the part of such families," Goldberg observed.

The BES study, developed under recommendations of the Federal Advisory Council on Employment Security, was initiated with a pilot survey in Pittsburgh in the fall of 1954. Surveys subsequently were conducted in Tampa-St. Petersburg, Fla., in fall of 1956; Anderson-Greenville-Spartansburg, S.C., in spring 1957; Albany-Schenectady, N.Y., spring 1957;

Portland, Ore., spring 1958, and St. Louis, Mo., spring 1958.

The average weekly benefit for heads of four-person households amounted to no more than 78 percent and as little as 56 percent of the average weekly amount spent for costs that could not be deferred, such as food, housing, medical expenses and clothing.

## 'Severe Hardship' Cited

Where there was little or no other family income, the failure of unemployment benefits to provide for nondeferrable living costs "resulted in severe financial hardship and deprivation for many jobless workers."

Two-thirds or more of the family breadwinners—as many as 85 or 86 percent in two areas—received weekly benefits that were less than half their former gross weekly earnings. For more than half the head-of-household claimants in each of the six studies, benefits were less than 50 percent of former take home pay. State-imposed ceilings on unemployment benefits "were especially restrictive" for heads of households.

Benefits for secondary family wage earners also fell far short of household living costs. But continued employment of the chief wage earner enabled these families to withstand the loss of income "with less difficulty."

## Open Shoppers Active Again

WASHINGTON, (PAI)—They may have taken some hefty knocks but the advocates of compulsory open shop legislation are at it again.

One of their prime targets is Oklahoma. Efforts to get a so-called "right-to-work" bill through the legislature flopped in the state this year when it was bottled up in committee. Previous efforts in Oklahoma have met with little success. The next move is to place it on the ballot in a state-wide referendum.

In 1958 six states voted on the compulsory open shop. It was sharply defeated in five instances, bringing down to defeat such major figures in the Republican Party as Senate Majority Leader William F. Knowland of California and Sen. John Bricker of Ohio.

A move is on in Idaho, on the urgings of corporation farm leaders, to enact a "work" law for agricultural workers only. Such a proposal passed in the state Senate this year but was defeated in the House. Idaho was one of the states which, in 1958, turned down a "work" law at the polls.

In Maine, a new "right-to-work" committee has been established. The state once had a compulsory open shop law but cleared it off the books in 1949. "Work" law committees have met with little success ever since.

In Florida and Texas, groups have been formed to put more punitive provisions into their "work" laws. On the other hand, organized labor in Texas is pushing a repeal drive.

# Hope Voiced for Cut In Jobless Totals, But 7% Rate Sticks

WASHINGTON, (PAI)—The Kennedy Administration is beginning to talk more optimistically about the progress of economic recovery at the same time that the Department of Labor is expressing hope that the jobless rate may fall within the next few months. Record employment totals for August "point to continued recovery," a government manpower expert declared, although the rate of joblessness remained at nearly 7 percent for the ninth straight month.

In a nationwide radio address on Labor Day AFL-CIO Pres. George Meany said: "No American can be complacent when more than five million others are idle."

Secretary of Labor Arthur J. Goldberg has reiterated his belief that much still remains to be done. He has expressed the determination of the Administration to fight for a number of key social and economic bills on which it got little or no action during the present session of Congress.

## Commerce Dept. Optimistic

Most of the "recovery" optimism has been coming from the Department of Commerce which has a built-in tendency to see the economy in a rosy light. Secretary of Commerce Luther Hodges has been on a speech-making tour in New England characterized by the general theme that the Kennedy "Boost-the-Economy" program "has already stimulated action and aided implementation in communities across the nation."

Hodges, in a report on the program, declared that more than 100 cities are now working actively on public works with contracts being awarded and unemployed put to work on community projects of all sorts.

In a speech at Haverhill, Massachusetts, the Secretary declared that "we have made a surprisingly good recovery so far from our recent business recession."

He cited the rise of gross national product to above the \$500 billion rate; the increase in personal income above the 1960 rate; the rapid rise of the industrial production index from its February low and a number of measures adopted by Congress to stimulate the economy.

## 'Surprised' at Progress

Another member of the President's Cabinet taking an optimistic view is Secretary of the Treasury Douglas Dillon. In a speech to the Commonwealth Club of California in San Francisco he predicted that the start of a "gradual improvement" should be reflected in the unemployment figures for September.

"If the anticipated rate of growth

materializes," he said, "unemployment should fall to 6 percent or less by Christmas and possibly to 5 percent by the middle of 1962."

"A year from now, if all goes well, unemployment should be gradually approaching 4½ percent level presently considered to be reasonably full employment."

At the Labor Department where the atmosphere has been a whole lot more concerned with the high rate of joblessness, there has been the beginning of a more optimistic note. While admitting that the August drop in unemployment has been largely seasonal, there have been suggestions that the shockingly high 6.9 jobless rate of the past year, may drop over the next few months.

Dr. Seymour Wolfbein, head of the Department's Office of Automation and Manpower, declared that there was "a good chance for better-than-seasonal improvements in the next few months if auto production gets really rolling," but admitted that the high jobless level still presents a "pretty ornery problem."

## 'Much to Be Done'

Secretary Goldberg also has been speaking of the Administration's achievements in improved social and economic legislation, but has been calling attention to the job that still remains to be done. Speaking before the convention of the Wood, Wire and Metal Lathers, he declared:

"There remains much to be done if we are to realize the highest meaning of a presently required objective: A United States that is stronger and more prosperous and more humane in its economic and social life."

Goldberg listed a number of bills for which he said the Administration would continue fighting. These include Federal aid to education, medical care for the aged, improvements in the unemployment insurance system; strengthening of the Welfare and Pension Plans Disclosure Act; the Manpower Development and Training Act and the Youth Employment Opportunities Act.

## Memorial Meeting For Lowenthal Held by Local 287

BROOKLYN, N. Y.—A memorial meeting honoring the late Samuel S. Lowenthal, long-time business manager of Retail Shoe Employees Local 287, was held on Sept. 14. Several hundred members of the local attended the meeting and heard eulogies of their departed leader.

Among the guest speakers at the meeting, which was chaired by '287' Business Manager Jack Maltz, were New York City Council President Abe Stark; RWDSU Pres. Max Greenberg; Business Manager Joseph Binenbaum of Shoe Employees Local 1268; and union attorney Arthur Garfinkel.

Participating with the members of '287' in the meeting were Mrs. Elizabeth Lowenthal and her sons, Irwin and Kenneth, and a number of officers of the RWDSU and its New York affiliates, including Sec.-Treas. Alvin E. Heaps, Vice-Presidents Martin Koppel and N. Jerome Kaplan, and other friends and associates of Sam Lowenthal.



Silent tribute to memory of late Samuel Lowenthal was paid at Sept. 14 meeting of Local 287, by platform guests and speakers.

## AFL-CIO Asks Recognition Of Federal Worker Unions

WASHINGTON, (PAI)—The AFL-CIO is strongly supporting a long called-for step in labor-management relations between the Government and its employees—full recognition of the rights of Federal workers to organize and negotiate agreements on working conditions and grievances.

AFL-CIO support for placing the relationship between the Federal Government and its organized workers on a more normal labor-management basis than exists at present came before a special President's Task Force which was set up by President Kennedy. The Task Force will make recommendations to the President as to how official Government acceptance and recognition of its organized workers can best be achieved.

Legislative Director Andrew J. Biemiller presented the official viewpoint of the AFL-CIO itself while a number of officials of already existing Federal employee unions testified in behalf of their own organizations. They represent more than 500,000 Federal employees who are now in a kind of no-man's land of unofficial status.

Biemiller accepted several limitations on the rights of Federal workers in dealing with the Government on the labor-management level. He agreed that Federal employees should not have the right to strike or to advocate overthrow of the government. He agreed that Federal employee unions should not discriminate in their membership on the basis of race, creed or color and he agreed that such matters as wage rates, overtime, promotions or work procedures which are set by law are not proper subjects for collective bargaining.

But outside of that, he said, Federal labor-management relations should be comparable with those in private industry.

Biemiller suggested that only bona fide labor groups should be recognized; that proof of majority representation should be presented and, if necessary, secret elections be held under the direction of the Secretary of Labor; that a voluntary check-off should be authorized; that for the present negotiations should be on a department or agency level, rather than on a nation-wide basis; that generally speaking, conditions of employment or grievances except as set by law should be regarded as within the proper scope of dealings between employee organizations and Government management officials; that in the event of disagreements the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service should be called in and that if mediation fails the issue should go to arbitration by a Government-Labor-Management Relations Panel which eventually could enforce a binding decision.

In opening the Task Force hearings, Secretary of Labor Arthur J. Goldberg made clear that the Kennedy Administration would be strongly opposed to recognizing any Federal employee union that practices racial discrimination.

## Definition of a 'Boss'

NEW YORK (PAI)—If you're wondering what your boss is you might consult the Merriam-Webster International Dictionary which comes up with these definitions, among others:

"Hollow, empty" (when used as an adjective); "a bulky animal;" "any protuberant part;" "a protuberant ornament on any work."

The dictionary said it. We didn't.



**AIDS GREATER NEW YORK FUND:** One of America's most talented union members, Carol Burnett of American Federation of Television and Radio Artists, AFL-CIO is a volunteer worker for 1961 Greater New York Fund appeal. She accepts check for \$6,000 from Employees' Community Fund of N.Y.C. Department of Hospitals. Presenting check is Dr. Ray E. Trussell, Commissioner of Hospitals.

## Beacon, N.Y. Fat-Cats Want Union Organizers 'Halted'

BEACON, N.Y. (PAI)—The Newburgh "soak-the-poor" fever is catching.

Now it's the semi-industrialized town of Beacon, just across the Hudson River from Newburgh, whose Chamber of Commerce wants "outside" union organizing activity to halt in the interest of local industry.

The Beacon action, obviously inspired by the same kind of thinking that brought on Newburgh's cruel crackdown on the city's welfare recipients in the interest of the taxpayers, has stirred up bitter controversy in this town of 15,000 population.

In a letter to Mayor Henry A. Knelley, the local Chamber of Commerce called on the city to halt unionizing efforts which the Chamber declared were endangering local industry.

Declaring that the company which the local press identified as the Technical Tape Corp. was now looking for some other community in which to settle, the Chamber's letter said that it was "time the community faced up to what is going on and to take steps to halt unwelcome outside union activity."

This position, similar to the attitude of many anti-labor communities in the South where a stock-in-trade argument is that it is the "outsiders" who stir up the community, brought varied reactions. Mayor Knelley to whom it was addressed and who presumably was supposed to chase the "outsiders" out of town, later declared that neither he nor the town council could act as strikebreakers.

## Armour-Union Pact Adds Automation Protection

CHICAGO, (PAI)—Protection for workers who lose their jobs because of plant shutdowns through automation or technological change is provided for in a new agreement just negotiated by the amalgamated Meat-Cutters and Butcher Workmen and the United Packinghouse Workers with Armour & Co.

The agreement, which also includes wage boosts and improved fringe benefits, affects 15,000 workers. It provides for "Technological Adjustment Pay" (TAP) for displaced workers.

"We believe TAP to be unique in American history," said a joint union-management statement. "It is a significant new development designed to protect Armour employees and their families during transitional unemployment."

The breakthrough on the automation front in the packing industry is one result of the work of the Armour Automation Committee, with Dr. Clark Kerr as its impartial chairman. This committee was established by a union-management agreement two years ago. It will continue its efforts to find ways of cushioning the serious job losses in the industry due to technological progress.

The "automation" clause was designed to cushion "unemployment problems arising from the closing of plants or departments."

Under TAP, the company will give three months notice of an intended close-down of a department or plant. During this period the displaced workers will be guaranteed their full pay. The displaced employee—if he has five years seniority and is under 60 years of age—can make two choices, either to take severance pay or apply for a job at some other Armour plant. If he chooses to ask for a transfer he will receive Technological Adjustment Pay during the waiting period. TAP payments will be at the rate of \$65 a week, minus unemployment compensation or other wages earned by the workers. TAP payments will be made from 26 to 39 weeks depending on the length of the employee's service.

If the worker rejects an offered transfer, he will receive severance pay minus whatever TAP payments have been made.

Employees aged 55 or more with at least 20 years seniority may choose to receive a pension instead of severance pay. The pension will be 1½ times normal pension until age 62 when it reverts to the normal pension.

Other provisions of the agreement include:

Wage increases of 19 cents an hour over three years; maintenance of the cost-of-living allowance now in effect; incorporation of five cents an hour cost-of-living raises previously granted, improved vacations and improved pensions.

## Kennedy's the Name

WASHINGTON (PAI)—If President Kennedy should ever want to join AFL-CIO Actor's Equity, he'll have to change his name.

It seems that John Kennedy already belongs to the union—the managing director of the Municipal Light Opera Company of St. Louis. One of the union's rules is that only the first one to register a name is entitled to use it exclusively, even if it is an assumed name.

## College Debate Topic: Should Anti-Trust Laws Cover Unions?

WASHINGTON—A kit of materials presenting organized labor's views on the applicability of anti-trust laws to trade unions has been prepared by the AFL-CIO for students taking part in the annual intercollegiate debate.

The college debaters this year are discussing the question, "Resolved, That Labor Organizations Should Be Under the Jurisdiction of Anti-Trust Legislation." The kit includes AFL-CIO and other pamphlets and a bibliography prepared by the AFL-CIO Dept. of Education. The publications are:

• "Power—for What?" in which Pres. George Meany asks: "Too powerful for whom?" and "Too powerful for what?" He points out that those who have enjoyed monopolistic power in business and politics want to keep unions weak so they cannot challenge that power.

• "Facts vs. Propaganda," which gives the truth about so-called "right-to-work" laws and explains that their real aim is to undermine trade unions for the economic benefit of those who promote them.

• "An Analysis of Anti-Trust Laws and Union Activity," a statement by Andrew J. Biemiller, AFL-CIO director of legislation. He shows how the demand for application of anti-trust laws to labor disregards history; spells out the difference between unions and business and demonstrates how they cannot be treated alike for purposes of anti-trust legislation; and shows that labor cannot be considered "monopolistic" despite its traducers.

• "Collective Bargaining or Monopoly," a 90-page booklet in which the Steelworkers rebut a wide range of arguments aimed to weaken collective bargaining.

• "Labor and Anti-Trust," a reprint of an article in the Industrial Union Dept.'s quarterly, "IUD Digest," by Arthur J. Goldberg, then IUD general counsel and now Secretary of Labor, showing the monopoly charge is "false from every viewpoint" and that labor application of anti-trust laws to unions would be a return to the 19th Century.

• "Don't 'Pulverize' Labor," a Congressional Record

reprint of extension of remarks made in 1953 by former Rep. Franklin D. Roosevelt, Jr., (D-N.Y.), refuting a bill which would have destroyed multi-employer bargaining and national trade unions.

In a covering letter, AFL-CIO Education Dir. Lawrence Rogin said the labor movement feels strongly that anti-trust laws "are not an appropriate means of dealing with the problems of unionism and collective bargaining."

"Over the years," he wrote, "those who have tried to keep unions weak and ineffective have attempted to use the courts and the anti-trust laws for this purpose. It is for this reason most students of industrial relations in the United States do not look upon the anti-trust laws as a constructive way to deal with collective bargaining problems."

Copies of the intercollegiate debate kit, may be obtained without charge from the Pamphlet Division, AFL-CIO Dept. of Publications, 815 Sixteenth Street, N.W., Washington 6, D.C.

## 612 Win Hikes In Boston Area Pact Renewals

BOSTON, Mass.—The new England Joint Board has won improved contracts for 612 members employed at four shops in this area. Joint Board Pres. Joseph H. Honan reported.

Local 444 won 14 cents an hour and improved insurance benefits for 300 members in a two-year agreement signed Aug. 23 with the Pneumatic Scale Corp. The agreement provides a 7-cent wage boost retroactive to June 9, another 7 cents next June 9, and raised hospital, surgical and maternity benefits.

Local 444 Pres. John Belcastro, Vice-Pres. Dennis Burns, Fin. Sec. James Durant, Rec. Sec. Richard Doyle, Albert Lewis, Frank Sophis, Robert Duprey and Honan bargained for the union members.

Local 610 won wage and fringe improvements for 200 members in a three-year contract with the Union News Co. The union members won a \$1.50 weekly boost retroactive to last Nov. 1, 5 cents an hour as of May 9, 1961 and another \$1.50 weekly next May 9. The contract also contains a wage reopeners based on the cost-of-living index at the beginning of the agreement's third year as well as improved holiday, vacation and hospitalization benefits.

### '610' Negotiators

Local 610's negotiators included Pres. Connie Tremonte, Henry Newenhouse, Joan Clancy, Walter Fawcett, Mary MacDonald, Toni O'Malley, Ray Gregory, Tony Curro and Honan.

Seventy-five Local 513 members employed at Pepsi-Cola bottling plants here and in Taunton won wage increases of 15 to 20 cents an hour retroactive to June 1 while driver-salesmen won increased commissions on all cases sold above 500 weekly. The local also won improvements in the pension plan and health and welfare plan.

Charles Azarian, John McDevitt, Joseph Covell, Fred Horan, William Tessier Jr. and Honan negotiated for the Pepsi-Cola employees.

Thirty-seven RWDSU members employed at the Canteen Co. in Waltham unanimously ratified a new three-year agreement that provides wage increases ranging up to 36 cents an hour. They won a general wage boost of 10 cents an hour as of June 1, an additional 8 cents next June 1 and another 8 cents June 1, 1963 while shopmen won 10 cents more as of June 1.

### Candidate in Quincy



QUINCY, Mass.—Joseph N. Gildea, president of RWDSU Local 513, is running for sixth ward councillor in the primaries here Oct. 10.

Gildea, an employee of the Coca-Cola Bottling Co., has served as chairman of the New England Joint Board's Federal Credit Union and as a Joint Board delegate to conventions of the RWDSU.

Married and the father of five children, Gildea has been active in many community organizations here.

September 24, 1961

## Drug Store Talks Covering 5,000 Race Sept. 30 Pact Deadline

NEW YORK CITY.—Faced with a Sept. 30 contract expiration, four drugstore employee members of Drug and Hospital Employees Local 1199 were engaged in intensive bargaining sessions to win substantial wage increases, higher minimum starting rates and improved fringe benefits at The Record's prestrike.

The talks affect '1199' members in more than 2,000 independently-operated drug stores and the Whelan and Liggett chains in the metropolitan area and Long Island. Four separate bargaining sessions are in progress, one with employer representatives of the New York City independent stores, another with the Nassau-Suffolk County Pharmaceutical Association, and separate talks with each of the two chains.

Local 1199 Drug Division Dir. George Glotzer heads rank-and-file negotiating teams in the discussions.

Union contract demands were adopted at well-attended membership meetings held at Manhattan Center here Sept. 13 and in Long Island the following day.

### Seek \$150 for Pharmacists

In the independent stores the union is seeking to win a \$15 weekly wage increase for registered pharmacists and an increase in the hiring rate from \$130 to \$150 weekly. Substantial hikes for members in all other categories are also included in the demands, with improved hiring rates as follows: drug and cigar sales clerks with five years' experience, \$90; two to five years, \$80; experienced cosmeticians, \$80; and soda men and soda women, porters, stockmen, pantrymen, dishwashers and cashiers, \$62.

The union is also asking for increased employer contributions to the local's benefit and pension plans, and improvements in the vacation, holiday and sick leave clauses.

A similar set of demands was adopted for Whelan and Liggett members to prevent any widening of the existing gap between independent and chain store standards.

### Workers Meet Oct. 1

Local 1199 Pres. Leon J. Davis announced that a special membership meeting will be held Sunday, Oct. 1 at 7:30 p.m. in the main ballroom at Manhattan Center, when members will vote to ratify an acceptable agreement or make plans to strike. The union's Nassau and Suffolk members will meet the following day in that area.

Six independent store associations, the Bronx County, Consolidated Brooklyn Retail Pharmacists, New York Retail Druggists, the National Independent Pharmacists, the Queens County and the Nassau-Suffolk Pharmaceutical Society, are bargaining for the independent store owners.

## RWDSU Locals Seek Big Vote On Brotherhood Line Nov. 7

NEW YORK CITY—RWDSU locals here are hard at work getting members registered and building up the vote for Mayor Robert F. Wagner on the labor-sponsored Brotherhood Party ticket in the city's mayoralty election November 7.

The Brotherhood Party has opened headquarters in each of the city's 65 assembly districts to aid union members in registering to vote. Those not registered may do so in their neighborhoods on Thursday and Friday, Oct. 12 and 13, from 5:30 to 10 p.m., and Saturday, Oct. 14, from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Several hundred members of District 65—including Exec. Vice-Pres. Bill Michelson, Vice-Pres. Frank Brown and other leaders—spent Saturday, Sept. 16, and Sunday, Sept. 17, collecting signatures to place the Brotherhood Party on the ballot. Many of the 65ers worked in the Bronx's 2d Assembly District, where Hy Schneider, secretary of the district's Textile Local, is running for state assem-

blyman on the Brotherhood and Liberal Party tickets.

Other 65ers worked at Brotherhood Party offices throughout the city, gathering signatures needed to place Mayor Robert F. Wagner and his running mates on the Brotherhood line for the election.

Local 1199, Drug and Hospital Employees, is also putting on a big drive for the Brotherhood Party, calling on all members to visit the party's headquarters nearest their homes to help build the vote for Nov. 7. Two sound trucks were manned by Local 1199 members prior to the Democratic Primary vote Sept. 7 which resulted in a sweep for Mayor Wagner and his running mates.

## Wins 5 Elections Among 326 Workers

## N.E. Joint Board Sets Fast Organizing Pace

BOSTON, Mass.—The RWDSU's New England Joint Board has rung up a proud record of growth in the past seven months.

Over this period the NEJB has filed petitions for 12 elections among 644 workers with the National Labor Relations Board, it was reported by Joint Board Pres. Joseph H. Honan. The Joint Board won five elections involving 326 workers and lost three involving 126 employees. Four elections among 192 workers are still pending.

The NLRB has set an election Sept. 19 at the Methuen Bottling Co., which employs 22 workers. The Board has not yet set elections at the other three firms: Ballin's, a direct mail shop that employs 70 workers; General Automatic, a food distributing company that employs 55

workers; and Central Markets, which has 45 employees at its three stores.

The New England Joint Board organized more than 200 workers employed at 26 First National food stores in Vermont last October.

The Joint Board has just signed a first contract for 50 employees after winning a bargaining election at the Charles Copeland Co. plants in nearby Milton and Brockton.

The three-year agreement provides a \$5 a week increase for driver-salesmen retroactive to Dec. 15, 1960, \$5 more this Dec. 15 and \$4 on June 15, 1962. Hourly-rated employees won 15 cents retroactive to last Dec. 15, 10 cents Dec. 15 and 10 cents June 15 of next year.

For the first time driver-salesmen will receive time-and-a-half for overtime and an additional \$18 for ten holidays.

The new Joint Board members also won family hospitalization coverage, a \$45 weekly sick benefit, life insurance, six days' sick leave, up to three weeks' vacation, route-bidding by seniority and the standard union shop, dues checkoff, grievance and arbitration clauses.

The negotiating committee was composed of John Ogryzek, Paul Higgins, Joseph Buiderket, Richard Grayson and Honan.

### Sorry Lil (Not Bill)

In the story of Local 875's new contract with Celluloplastics Corp. in Fitchburg, Mass., which appeared in The Record Aug. 27, there was a misprint in the name of the local's recording secretary. The secretary is Lillian Leger, not William Leger. Sorry Lil.

## The Midwest

### Company's Actions in Dubuque Strike Cited

## Open National Boycott of Amer. Optical

CHICAGO, Ill.—A nationwide campaign is under way to inform the labor movement and the buying public of the union-busting practices of the giant American Optical Co., it was announced by RWDSU Sec.-Treas. Alvin E. Heaps. The drive to place American Optical on labor's "unfair" list was brought about by the firm's actions in the four-months-old strike being conducted by RWDSU Local 853-A in Dubuque, Iowa.

While three of the company's plants in Illinois are covered by contracts with Local 853-A, it has stubbornly refused to settle at the Dubuque plant. Instead, the firm insists on maintaining lower wage rates in Iowa, and is equally insistent on giving preferential seniority to five scabs who have worked during the strike.

Heaps said that every state and city labor council of the AFL-CIO throughout the U.S. and Canada, as well as every international union, would be notified of American Optical's actions and would be asked to urge members not to buy its industrial safety glasses.

#### 'Unfair' Charges Pressed

Meanwhile, Local 853-A has filed NLRB unfair labor practice charges against American Optical because of the company's failure to bargain in good faith, Pres. L. Earl Disselhorst reported.

The charges were filed Aug. 31 on behalf of 12 Dubuque local members who went on strike May 9. The company has since replaced five of the strikers with scabs and the reinstatement of the union members is now the main issue.

All other issues in the dispute were resolved at a recent meeting with federal conciliator James Jeffries in Dubuque. After Jeffries persuaded the union committee to accept the company's last offer, made after the strike had started, American Optical added a stipulation that it would not take back all of the strikers.

#### 'Dismissal' Notices Sent

At the same time the company sent dismissal notices to five strikers, with dates of dismissal as far back as July 31.

In the company's written offer, it said that if the five employees were taken back, they would be considered newly-hired employees with seniority and vacation benefits starting from the date of re-hiring.

Of the five employees, who have a total of 60 years' service with American Optical, three are entitled to three weeks

of vacation, one to two weeks, and the other to one week. Under present company practice the five would have to work a full year before getting one week's vacation.



Dramatizing dismissal of five American Optical employees in Dubuque is token picketing by Ormal Hoskins, oldest of Dubuque group in point of service. Hoskins, crippled in childhood by polio, served company for 18 years. Brother, Hoskins' sign reads, "Let's Hire, Not Fire the Physically Handicapped," an ironic take-off on annual "Employ the Physically Handicapped" campaign, with special meaning at American Optical.

### Challenge Company's 9-Month Contract Stall

## 65 Strike Crystal Pure Candy in Chicago

CHICAGO, Ill.—Sixty-five members of the Chicago Joint Board struck the Crystal Pure Candy Co. Sept. 18 to end the company's nine-month-long stall on a contract renewal, Joint Board Pres. Henry Anderson reported.

"The members are out and they're unanimous in support of the union," Anderson said. "We're facing the possibility of a prolonged strike, although we hope not."

The union has set up a picketline around the plant and the management has not tried to operate.

The union has been in negotiations with Crystal Pure since January, when its previous two-year agreement expired. The issues in dispute are wage increases, a third week's vacation and improved health and welfare benefits, Anderson said.

At the last negotiating session, held Sept. 15, the company offered a four-cent wage increase over two years but the workers rejected the offer at a special strike meeting called for 7 a.m. on the day of the walkout.

The strike had been authorized two weeks earlier and the special meeting affirmed the members' support of the strike.

No further negotiations had been scheduled as The Record went to press.

Crystal Pure is owned by a New Jersey firm, the Union Machine Co.

The union's negotiating committee is composed of William Green, chief steward; Donna Byrd, Willie Mays, Savannah Adams, Anna Lee Cates, Lonny Gully and Anderson.



IMPORTANCE OF STATE AFL-CIO in political and legislative fields was discussed by Miles C. Stanley (2d from r.), president of West Virginia Labor Federation, during visit to Local 149 in Glen Dale, W. Va. RWDSU members in photo include Int'l Rep. Charles Hess (l.), Wilma Bonar, Harry Ott, Gayle Miller and Local Pres. Walter Hitt.

## Election Oct. 3 In Chicago at Brooks Bros.

CHICAGO, Ill.—The National Labor Relations Board has set a representation election for Oct. 3 among the 35 men's clothing and furnishings salesmen and non-selling employees of the Brooks Brothers store here, Chicago Joint Board Pres. Henry Anderson reported.

"An overwhelming majority of the workers are signed up," he said.

The store, a branch of the well-known New York clothing and furnishings chain, consented to the election at an NLRB hearing Sept. 14. The union had filed an NLRB petition to represent the Brooks employees Aug. 21.

The Brooks Brothers campaign is the Joint Board's second among clothing and furnishings employees in the past two months. The union won an NLRB election on Aug. 8 among 40 workers at two stores operated by Broadstreet's here by a 24 to 7 margin. Contract talks with Broadstreet's are continuing.

Although the union's campaign among retail clothing employees has only started, Anderson said that the results of the campaign have already brought a number of inquiries from other retail store employees.

"We hope it indicates a trend," Anderson said.

## W. Va. Unions Collect \$43,000 for Flood Aid

CHARLESTON, W. Va.—AFL-CIO unions in West Virginia collected \$43,330 during August to aid victims of the West Virginia flash flood which hit the Charleston area July 19, killing 22 persons and damaging 1,600 homes.

State AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Benjamin W. Skeen said \$34,149 of the amount had been contributed by the Glass Bottle Blowers, its local unions and their employers. The donations are being used for direct relief of GBBA members among the flood victims.

All other donations were turned over to the American Red Cross for flood relief based on need. This fund drive was sparked by the State AFL-CIO, the West Virginia Building & Construction Trades Council, the Kanawha Valley Labor Council and the Charleston Building Trades Council.

Skeen said that "every penny" of the amount collected for the Red Cross "has been turned over without administrative expense."

## 28 Organized At 3 Warehouses In Indianapolis

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind.—Local 512 has organized the 28 workers employed by Western Distributors at three wholesale warehouses here, Int'l Rep. Joseph Romer reported.

"We had one of the NLRB's examiners check the application cards and the company now recognizes our union for the three warehouses," Romer said.

In addition to the Western Distributors warehouse, the company also operates the Rose Tire Co. and The Mart here. "They handle everything from a toothpick to an automobile," Romer said.

Negotiations for a first contract are expected to begin shortly.



**MINERS' PICK:** These lovely ladies were finalists in annual beauty pageant at Labor Day rally of United Mine Workers District 28. This year the judges at St. Paul, Va., picked Janice Robinson, center, of Wise, Va., as queen. Peggy Bailey, left, of Oakwood, Va., was second and Brenda Kodak, of Dante, Va., was third.

## Strike at Alabama Poultry Firm In Eighth Week; Plant Closed

DECATUR, Ala.—The strike of 21 Local 451 members against Poultry By-Products Inc. for a new contract has gone into its eighth week, Alabama RWDSU Council Org. J. H. Foster reported.

The strike began Aug. 1, several days after the local's one-year agreement with Poultry By-Products expired.

"It all boiled down to one issue," Foster said. "The company would pull the men off their job and move them to another job. The men didn't want to keep moving around and we couldn't get a settlement on it with the company."

Foster said that the union has filed NLRB charges that the company refused to bargain in good faith.

The company tried to run the plant with scabs after the strike started but closed down after a week's operation. It

now claims it is moving the plant to Cullman, Ala. on Sept. 21.

"We may move with them," Foster said. "It's 40 miles from here, so we may just move with them and set up our picketline there."

Poultry By-Products is a rendering plant that processes inedible chicken parts into animal feed.

The local's negotiating committee is composed of Jessie Estes, Melvin Blocker, Marques Jacquess, Willard Fowler, Junior Weaver and Foster.

## It Started When Foster's Car Broke Down . . .

## 'Sighted Service Shop, Signed Same'

DECATUR, Ala.—When the heater hose on Org. J. H. Foster's car blew out one hot July afternoon just outside Decatur, another successful organizing drive by the Alabama RWDSU Council was underway.

The drive ended Sept. 20 with the Council's 13 to 5 NLRB election victory among the employees of the Simms Motor Car Co., a Ford dealership here.

When Foster's hose went on the blink, he drove into the Simms shop to get his car repaired. Being a good union man, he asked mechanic Robert Hudson if the Simms' employees were organized.

"When he said no, I said I should pull my car out and take it somewhere else," Foster said.

But Hudson asked Foster to hold on a second and called over two other employees, Porter Terry and J. B. Rice. They listened to Foster and said they wanted to talk to the other employees and would give him a call.

"A couple of weeks later Robert Hudson called and said they were ready if I was ready," Foster said.

Since the election Simms has fired one man and laid off a second. The union

is preparing to file NLRB charges against the company. The bargaining unit includes body and auto mechanics, parts clerks, used car lot attendants and the maintenance staff.

Hudson, Terry, Rice and Foster will negotiate for the Simms employees.

Meanwhile, Bill Langston reported that the Council has won another NLRB election among the 25 employees of the Seale Lumber Co. in Birmingham. The vote was 19 to 6.

The management put on a brief anti-union campaign, but the issue was never in doubt, Langston said.

"The men just wanted a union and they weren't going to let anyone swing them one way or the other," he said. "Wages are way low. Some of the employees get 75 cents an hour."

Alabama Council member Henry Jen-

## 'Tough Fight' Looming In Amer. Tobacco Talks in Charleston

CHARLESTON, S.C.—Local 15-A's 18-man negotiating committee has made only limited progress in its contract renewal talks with the American Tobacco Co. here, Int'l Rep. Larry Larsen reported.

"We have a real fight on our hands," he said.

The committee, representing 980 union members at the company's cigar plant here, opened contract talks with management Aug. 22 and held its second meeting Sept. 19.

The local's two-year agreement with American Tobacco expires Sept. 24.

The company has offered a choice of terms—all regarded as inadequate—in a one-year, two-years or three-years agreement.

The company offered a flat 3-cents-an-hour boost and no other improvements in a one-year contract, while over two years the company offered 7 cents in wages, a third week of vacation after ten years (instead of 12) in the contract's second year, and \$24 weekly sick leave pay instead of \$20 for 13 weeks.

The company's offer for a three-year contract is 10 cents in wages, an additional paid holiday, the third week's vacation during the contract's first year, \$24 weekly sick leave pay for 14 weeks, improved progression steps and an irrevocable check-off in place of the current revocable check-off.

"With the cost-of-living going up to record highs and with profits the highest in the company's history, we're not going to tie ourselves down to a three-year contract without guarantees of protecting our buying power," Larsen said.

He pointed out that the company has increased its production by 20 million cigars yearly with fewer employees, and has used a new process to save tobacco.

"It used to take six pounds to make one thousand cigars; now it takes three pounds for the same thousand," Larsen said.

American Tobacco manufactures Rollan and Golfers cigars at the Charleston plant.

Members of the negotiating committee are Local Pres. Nan Carter, Vice-Presidents John Cummings and A. T. Hicks, Fin. Sec. Marie Hodges, Luther Johnson, Isaac Bennett, Minnie Lee Brown, S. B. Graham, Ethel Maki, Lore Hiott, Eugenia Wheeler, Irene Reed, Marjorie Arris,

Minnie Waites, Lillie Mae Marsh, Jack Morgan, Louis Weeks, Edgar Smalls, Reg. Dir. Irving Lebold and Larsen.

## RWDSUers Shine In Tuscaloosa, Ala. Labor Day Parade

TUSCALOOSA, Ala.—Locals 405, 559 and 945, the three Alabama RWDSU Council locals here, entered floats in Tuscaloosa's big Labor Day Parade, Org. C. T. Daniel reported.

"Local 405, the Hardin's Bakery local, had a 40-foot trailer carrying a big cake with candles, one for each year since the local was organized, a big loaf of bread, a big crown representing the bakery as king of bread and cake, a sun for the Sunbeam chain, and of course a big RWDSU Local 405 sign," he said.

Local 559, which is bargaining agent for employees of the Perry Creamery, had a 1½-ton trailer decorated with the company trademark, the RWDSU label and a live cow.

"She was a perfect lady, of course," Daniel said.

Local 945, which represents Dellview Dairy workers, had a float showing its products surrounded by pretty girls.

Daniel estimated that 30 RWDSU members were among the 400 Labor Day paraders, representing every local union in town, who marched with several high school bands down University Avenue and Greensboro Street.

"Tuscaloosa is one of the best union towns in Alabama," Daniel said.

## 17c Package Won At Ala. Scrap Yard

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—Local 261 has completed negotiations for the first contract for 25 employees of the Jefferson Iron & Metal Co., a scrap yard here, Org. Bill Langston reported.

"We got a two-year contract with a package of about 17 cents an hour and a reopen on wages after one year," Langston said.

The contract provides a five-cent an hour wage increase, Southeastern RWDSU Health and Welfare Plan coverage, four holidays and one week's vacation after one year's service and two weeks after five years. The workers had no holidays or vacations before the contract was signed.

Local 261 won recognition as bargaining agent without an election after the workers struck the company for an hour Aug. 3. Contract negotiations began a week later.

## 5 to 20 Cents for 38 At Sealtest in So. Car.

FLORENCE, S.C.—Thirty-eight members of Local 1005 have won a general wage increase of 5 cents hourly and inequity adjustments ranging up to 15 cents in a one-year agreement with the Sealtest Dairy here, Int'l Rep. Larry Larsen reported.

"The last time we had a year-and-a-half fight to get a contract," Larsen said. "This time we started negotiations on Tuesday, Sept. 5, and by noon on the sixth we had a contract settlement."



HENRY JENKINS

## Canada

# B.C. High Court Upholds '535' in Taylor Pearson Branch Picketing

VANCOUVER, B.C.—The Supreme Court of British Columbia has handed down a precedent-making decision upholding Local 535's right to picket branches of the struck Taylor, Pearson and Carson Company.

One hundred and ten members of the local struck Taylor Pearson, a wholesale distributor of auto parts and accessories and TV and radio equipment, on July 14. The strike has the full backing of the British Columbia Federation of Labor.

The court case arose after the union extended its picketing to a number of the company's unorganized branches. The pickets carried placards stating that the company was involved in a strike at its main office and asked that customers not do business with any Taylor branch.

The company immediately went to the courts in an effort to get an injunction and remove the pickets.

The company contended before Justice Colline that the picketing was illegal as the union was not certified at the branches and had not gone through the procedures required by the Trade Union Act before the picketing.

The judge declared that the local had not violated the act and was entitled to picket any of Taylor Pearson's places of business.

"The decision will have a far-reaching effect and is an important victory for the striking members as well as for the rest of the labor movement," said Rep. Ray Haynes.

Because of the significance of the court's decision, it is expected that the company, backed by other employers in the province, will try to upset the decision by appealing the case to the Supreme Court of Canada.



**COURT VICTORY:** Local 535 members Jim McDonald (l.) and Ozzie Hempel look over Int'l Rep. Bud Hodges' shoulder as he reads court ruling that gives local the right to continue its picketing of Taylor Pearson branches. Strike of 110 Local 535 members started in mid-July.

## 17c Package for 200 at Canada Bread

TORONTO, Ont.—Two hundred members of Local 461 have won a 17-cent an hour package in a two-year agreement with Canada Bread Co. Ltd. here, it was reported by Int'l Rep. Al Gleason.

The contract provides a five-cent across-the-board increase immediately, four cents next May and three cents more in January 1963. At that time the work week will be reduced from 41 to 40 hours with maintenance of pay.

The vacation clause was amended to provide three weeks of vacation after 15 years of service, departmental seniority was instituted, and the meal allowance was improved.

Employees at the Danforth branch won a \$30 lump sum payment for back benefits and Bartley Drive plant workers won a \$20 settlement.

The agreement was reached with the assistance of R. V. Bradley, provincial conciliation officer.

The company's negotiators were R. Bonus and H. Goodrow while J. Vander Woude, Doris Hogarth, D. Kimball and Gleason bargained for the union.

Local 461 also won a 12-cent an hour package in a new two-year agreement recently signed for 20 members at the Wonder Bread plant in Peterborough, Gleason reported.

Paul Burns, E. Watman and Gleason negotiated the new contract.



**STRIKERS TELL LABOR'S STORY:** Taylor Pearson strikers Fran Alce (l.) and May Jordan were among volunteers who manned British Columbia Federation of Labor's booth at this year's Pacific National Exhibition in Vancouver. Other Local 535 members who served at the booth were May Carlton, Vi Gordon and Jessie Caverely.

## Year's Fight Wins Job Back At Motor Firm

VANCOUVER, B.C.—After one year of grievance and arbitration procedures, Local 535 has been successful in getting union member Al Hammond reinstated at Motor Car Parts.

Hammond, one of the union members instrumental in organizing the firm, was laid-off because of lack of work and was bypassed when the company began rehiring. In the discussions with the company it became obvious that Motor Car was anxious to avoid rehiring Hammond because of his organizing activity and the matter was taken to arbitration.

On July 27 the arbitration board ruled that Hammond had not lost his seniority because of a technicality nor had he lost it because of a management claim that he had refused an offer of part-time employment.

The board's decision also contained



**AL HAMMOND**

sections that Local 535 believes to be "glaring errors" and the union has asked the courts to rule on these sections of the board's award.

The union has demanded lost wages for Hammond back to January of this year.

## Catholic Bishops Urge Unionization

OTTAWA (CPA)—Government should encourage working people to join the unions of their choice, said the Labor Day message of the Canadian Catholic Conference, a voluntary association of Roman Catholic bishops.

The bishops urged workers, rural and urban, to join unions. "Too many workers still do not belong to organizations of their own," said the conference. The fact that not all workers belong to the union movement limits the effectiveness of unions in "playing the role which belongs to them, that of helping to solve the many complex problems of our economic society."

The bishops asked government to extend the right to organize so that working people can participate truly at all levels of economic and social life. "They could thus be associated in the working out and executing of those economic and social policies that are necessary to their welfare."

Government and public authority must increasingly intervene to establish just economic and social policies, said the bishops. The state must encourage citizens to accept their responsibilities and to provide them with institutions favorable to joint action.

## '461' Certified at Garage Of Weston Bakery in Ont.

TORONTO, Ont.—Local 461 was certified by the provincial Labor Relations Board Sept. 12 as bargaining agent for the nine employees of Weston Bakery's Central garage here.

Bus. Agent Herb Thorne, who headed the organizing campaign, said negotiations for the first contract have begun.

## feature Section

### Should Workers Have Struck Over Toilet Time?

By MAX STEINBOCK

On Wednesday, September 6th, General Motors and the United Auto Workers announced that agreement had been reached on the terms of a new three-year contract covering 310,000 workers. The new pact provided the highest wage increases gained by the union since 1946; it also provided substantial improvement in such fringe benefits as hospitalization, supplementary unemployment benefits and pensions.

Yet despite these gains more than a quarter of a million GM workers went on strike on Monday, September 11th.

Why the General Motors strike?

Well, if "all you know is what you read in the papers," to paraphrase Will Rogers, you would certainly think that the GM workers had gone on strike with little or no cause. The New York Times called the strike "a dismaying example of ineptitude in collective bargaining. Apparently the chief obstacle to a full accord . . . was a dispute over the wording of a clause governing toilet time."

The New York Journal-American called it "a needless strike," and went on to say, "With wages and benefits no longer an issue, the differences that remain are in an area Mr. Reuther concedes is '99 percent working conditions.' They take in thousands of issues that involve such momentous matters as coffee breaks and time off to go deer hunting. To dislocate a huge and important industry by a massive nationwide strike over such differences is capricious and highhanded."

What are the facts? Are the issues that brought about a strike at 92 GM plants really so trivial?

Well, let's start with the one that's been publicized most; time off for personal needs, or—in plain English—toilet time. From our own experience on newspapers, editorial writers wouldn't think this an important issue, simply because they can go to the lavatory any time they want to. But to a worker who's riveted to one spot on an assembly line for four straight hours, it can be very important. And if the same thing happens day after day, or if the worker is told he has to take his relief time a few minutes after he gets to work—with no relief time for hours thereafter—it can be pretty irritating.

The issue has been important enough over the years to require a clause in the GM contract permitting 24 minutes off a day for "personal needs." But the problem has been that there were seldom enough relief men to provide such time off.

Now that there is a strike over this and other issues, the company has finally found a way to resolve it. The national GM contract will guarantee enough relief men to give each worker time off during the last three hours of each four-hour work period.

This is just one of the 11,811 unresolved local issues, by GM's count, that brought about the walkout. The company cited among these a demand by a Michigan local for an opportunity for all workers in the plant to go deer hunting during the deer season, and one from a Maryland local for a 950-foot canopy from the parking lot to the plant entrance. Editorial writers all over the country have had a great time with these two items.

#### 11,809 Demands for Decent Treatment

However, among the 11,809 other issues are such questions as production standards, a union demand for a no-discrimination contract clause, rules on compulsory overtime work, steward representation, supervisors doing work that is supposed to be performed by union members, and many other issues which are no laughing matter at all.

At GM, as at many other huge corporations, collective bargaining on the national level determines broad policy on wages and fringe benefits. But such matters as seniority protection, transfer rights, health and safety provisions and other working conditions are left to the union local and the individual plant management to be negotiated on the local level.

In these local negotiations, the plant manager is on the spot. He is competing for recognition and promotion with other managers, and his cost and profit figures will be used to judge him. If he can keep payroll costs down, he's a hero. And if he has a reputation of being tough with the union, that won't hurt him at the home office either. These considerations may provide a clue for the editorial writers—if they really want one—as to why GM workers struck.

Walter Reuther has called General Motors "a glorified, gold-plated sweatshop." There's no doubt that even after this strike is settled and some or all of the 11,811 local issues are resolved, working in a GM plant will be no picnic. The assembly lines move at a pace that demands every bit of the worker's strength and concentration. Work in such a plant is hard and taxing, both physically and mentally. Despite the relatively high wages, thousands of assembly line workers quit every year because they just can't take it.

To these workers, a fight for toilet time—trivial as it may seem to the daily newspapers—is a fight for principle. It is part and parcel of the fight that auto workers have been waging for a quarter-century to establish decent working conditions in their industry. That struggle has involved such efforts as setting up a union time-study department to check management's attempts to speed up assembly lines; establishing supplementary unemployment benefits to provide a measure of year-round wage security; and pension plans to provide some financial security in the worker's old age.

Coupled with these and other major steps is the day-to-day fight for lesser benefits—the kind of working conditions that editorial writers take for granted on their own jobs. But even more than decent working conditions is at stake; GM workers are fighting for their own dignity and self-respect as human beings. In that fight they deserve the support of every trade union member.

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STRIKE

# 'SHARING' OUR WEALTH



## Gap Widens Between Rich and Poor

WASHINGTON — The spokesmen for American reaction have been shouting for years that the Federal income tax is ruining them, that a man can't get rich any more, and that the income tax is creating a vast redistribution of income in the United States. Some even cry this is "socialism."

Latest Government figures reveal how very wrong they are.

The Department of Commerce, in its annual family income report, notes that average family income rose again in 1960, but the crucial question is "Who Gets What Share?"

An AFL-CIO analysis of the figures show that those who already have more than enough are getting more, and those who didn't have enough in the first place, are getting less.

The fact is that the gap between the lower and higher income groups is widening. If the American goal is a fairer distribution of our abundance, we are moving in the wrong direction. The income share of the lowest income fifth of the population is falling.

The average family income in 1960 hit the all-time high of \$6,900. But the "average" is pulled up by the very high incomes. The "median" income comes to \$5,600. (Median is mid-point, with half the families above, and half below it.)

Furthermore, the Commerce Department does not include the billions of dollars gained by the top income groups from capital

gains. And capital gains (on sales of stock, property, etc.) are taxed at a maximum rate of 25 percent. Capital gains are now a major source of income for the wealthy.

Of course, the wealthy ones point accusingly at the top personal income tax rate of 91 percent. But most of their income is not taxed at anywhere near that rate. The effective tax rate for them is less than 20 percent.

Nor do the figures reflect the benefit of so-called expense accounts, stock options, country club memberships, yachts, hunting lodges, etc.

Nor do the figures reveal that state and local taxes such as sales taxes, property taxes and payroll taxes hit the poorest proportionately more than the rich.

The total personal income figure for the 56 million families in the U.S. in 1960 was \$385 billion.

Of this, the 7.2 million families in the lowest fifth of the income group (13 percent of the total) got only 2 percent, or \$8.1 billion. (They existed on incomes under \$2,000.)

The AFL-CIO analysis concluded with the observations that family income is not rising enough to utilize the nation's productive capacity; that the continuing gap between the wealthy and the poverty-bound is "indefensible;" that the shares of the lower groups should be improved and that ability to pay should be the principle of taxation.

## Early Retirement Seen as Health Aid

ANN ARBOR, Mich. (PAI)—Contrary to popular opinion and gloomy talk, retirement doesn't generally result in major physical and mental decline or early death. In fact, early retirement actually may conserve health and extend life, says Dr. Wilma Donahue, chairman of the University of Michigan Division of Gerontology.

In 1953, for example, when researchers interviewed older members of the International Ladies Garment Workers' Union in New York, almost half (48 per cent) said their health improved after retirement. One-third said it was the same. Only one-sixth reported it was worse.

Similarly, a 1959 study of more than 100 executives showed that retirement had no effect on physical or mental health, although some tensions were apparent in the transition period immediately following retirement.

In a third study, involving health and mortality data of pensioners a large communication firm showed no evidence that retirement hastened death or led to a decline in health. Instead, the findings suggested that mortality was lower in the period following retirement, regardless of the age of the individual involved.

## Consumers Face Danger In Easy Credit

By SIDNEY MARCOLIUS  
Consumer Expert for The Record

At the very time wage-earner bankruptcies are steadily increasing, with overloaded installment debts found to be the chief cause, the nation's largest retailers have announced a new policy of selling with no down payment at all.

The number of bankruptcies increased 400% from 1950 to 1960, and this year is expected to total 125,000 compared to 1960's 100,000. The proportion of bankruptcies by wage-earners is increasing too. Now 90% of bankruptcies are by people who work for wages, and 10% are business failures.

The shocker is the especially high rate of bankruptcies among young families. One nationwide finance company attributes 28% of its loans to customers under 32.

The recent recession aggravated the debt problems. But actually, the number of consumer bankruptcies has been increasing in boom years as well as bust. Too many installment debts, resulting in deficiency judgments and threats of garnishment, are the leading cause of bankruptcies.

The other important causes are seasonal unemployment; unusual medical bills; the "growing rebellion against excessive interest rates on small loans," and, the "increasing number of divorces among unstable young people."

But the overwhelming reason is that threat of garnishment of wages. In some states, all or most wages are exempt from garnishment, particularly Pennsylvania, Florida, Texas, New York, Indiana and Hawaii. But in others where there is no automatic exemption, especially California, Illinois and Oregon, bankruptcies are running especially high.

Young debtors also sometimes seek bankruptcy after they have paid a long time on a so-called "small loan" only to find that most of their payments have been consumed in interest at such rates as 3% a month (a true 36% a year).

The new "no-down-payment" plans announced in recent weeks by Sears Roebuck, Montgomery Ward, Aldens, Western Auto Stores and other large retailers, are another inducement to young families to overload themselves with debt and also pay steep finance charges.

Sears and Aldens now do over 50% of their business on credit. Spiegels, another big catalog seller, still requires small down payments but does 80% of its business on credit, while Wards does about 38%.

Credit selling has become profitable for retailers, not only because they have an opportunity to sell you more goods that way but because they make profit on the finance charge itself. The Sears Roebuck Acceptance Corp., which finances Sears' installment contracts, reported a 38% increase in its net profit (after taxes) for 1960.

Sears board-chairman Charles H. Kellstadt is opposing the true-interest disclosure bill proposed in Congress by Senator Paul Douglas. Mr. Kellstadt argues that Sears makes no charge for credit as such, but merely has a cash price and a time price. For example, if your unpaid balance is \$100.01 to \$110 Sears adds \$11 for the credit fee, and you pay at the rate of \$10 a month. This is equivalent to a true annual interest rate of 18-22%. Most of the other mail-order houses and retailers charge similar credit fees.

Mr. Kellstadt says the customer is "fully informed" if he is simply told the time price, not the true annual rate.

The fact is, Sears and the other mail-order houses really provide less information than any other seller or lender. They won't even tell you the dollar cost per \$100 of initial debt or the monthly rate on the declining balance, as most other lenders and retailers do. It's impossible for the average family to judge the true interest rate from the information in the mail-order catalogs.

Here's an ironical incident. We recently interviewed a working family that had bought a set of tires from Aldens on the installment plan. During the recession last winter, the husband went on part time and fell behind in payments. Aldens sent a letter warning it would have to collect from his employer. Since this employer fires immediately if a man is garnished, the family was scared stiff. While it was still trying to figure out what to do, in the next mail a folder arrived from Alden's inviting the family to make additional purchases on credit.

General Motors Acceptance Corp. made a study of the effects of installment buying and found:

- Repossessions increased as down payments are lowered.
- Repossessions increased as repayment periods are lengthened.

As if this weren't trouble enough, a California bank is operating a credit-card plan for food through 300 food stores. If the customer pays within 25 days, there's no credit fee; after that, 1½% a month—a true 18% a year. The stores also pay the bank 4½% of the amount of your credit purchases. This, of course, must be added on to their prices.

# RETARDED CHILDREN



Kammy McGrath, left, is now a normal five-year-old, thanks to special diet which saved her from retardation. Her sister Sheila (foreground), though improved by treatment, suffered permanent brain damage.

**O**N a blustery fall day in 1950, forty men and women met in a hotel in Minneapolis to organize a crusade which would, in time to come, change the lives of millions of Americans. The forty who met were, almost without exception, parents whose children were being held captive in a gray, marginal world because the public was unaware of their needs. At the meeting new hope was born, for that day marked the founding of the National Association for Retarded Children.

Thus began a new era, and it has seen a phenomenal development. Group after group of parents organized. From a handful they have grown in number to 75,000 members organized in 850 local groups, and retarded children now enter a world which is learning to accept them, love them and offer help to them.

Who are these children? More than 300 are born every day, to rich and poor alike, to brilliant and average parents, to professional people and laborers. Retardation claims its victims by the millions without discrimination.

More than 100 causes of this mysterious affliction have been uncovered, and under the powerful lens of scientific research, ways are being discovered to prevent an increasing number of them.

One recent break-through was the dramatic discovery of the disease phenylketonuria, its cause and cure. This is a disease that damages the brain from birth.

The McGrath family of Denver, Colorado, sums up the heart-break and the hope that surrounds mental retardation. Two of their children, Sheila and Kammy (short for Katherine), are victims of phenylketonuria, a biochemical cause of mental retardation. Sheila is irrevocably retarded but Kammy is normal as the result of a preventative diet discovered and developed during the past few years.

These blond, blue-eyed sisters personify the fatiguing years of research, the successes and the setbacks that comprise the current picture of mental retardation, which affects 5,500,000 Americans, more than any other permanent handicap. The little McGrath girls are the poster children for the National Association for Retarded Children's 1961 campaign.

Sheila, who is seven, was diagnosed as having phenylketonuria about the time she was a year

## Medical Advances Offer New Hope for Victims

old, but she had to wait for the experimental preventative diet until she was 18 months old, when a supply became available at Colorado General Hospital. By the time she started on it, her brain was already damaged. She could not see, sit, or walk. After two weeks she could sit up and see and soon began walking. But she reached her peak of development at the age of four and a half, when the diet could not offset the damage that had already occurred to her brain.

Although she is normal in appearance, Sheila is classified as "trainable retarded" (up to 50 I. Q.). She lives at the State Home and Training School in Wheatridge, a suburb of Denver. She comes home on weekends.

Kammy McGrath, Sheila's sister, is now five years old. She lives at home with three other sisters (ten, nine, and one year old), her mother (an ex-airline stewardess) and father (an electrical engineer with the Public Service Company of Colorado). She and her sisters enjoy ice skating, swimming and their big dog, Bo.

Kammy was tested for phenylketonuria when she was born, and was found to have the disease. She was put on the special diet immediately for it was found that the earlier the treatment, the more effective were the results. Kammy's mother serves the brownish powder she needs in various ways; putting peppermint in it, mixing it with soft drinks, making it into jelly rolls or dough that is baked or fried. Kammy has now been off the diet for six months without a sign of harm, but she is closely watched and followed in case she should require it again. There is no sign of retardation.

### Help for 25 Out of 30

It is now known that twenty-five of every thirty mentally retarded youngsters can grow up to be fully or partially self-supporting. Another four can learn to take care of their personal needs. And only one of the thirty will need constant care in his lifetime.

What is being done to help mentally retarded children?

For the youngest group, nursery schools and day care centers are the first step toward learn-

ing coordination and cooperation. The child has companions and, with them, paints, models in clay, builds block towers, plays a variety of games. He then is ready to progress into special classes which are formed in many cases within the regular public school systems.

Girl Scout, Brownie Boy Scout and Cub troops for the mentally retarded are proving most successful. Wearing of the uniforms brings a sense of belonging, and passing the tests, even though they must be simplified to meet specific needs, promotes the self-confidence so essential to these boys and girls.

The success of such enlightened programs illustrates that the mentally retarded child is more like other children than unlike them. He needs what other children need: accomplishments to be proud of, friends to play with, and things to hope for.

Just as other teen-agers, the retarded adolescent begins to look for his place in the adult world. A large part of NARC's program is the development of sheltered workshops and employment for the handicapped. Young men and women are now engaged in an astounding variety of projects and contracts, through which many are earning enough money to partly or entirely support themselves.

In one workshop, precious stones are polished and set; in another, jewelry is made. In the south, one shop packs pecans; in New England, fishing poles are refinished and assembled. Products of the workshops include floor polishers, danger flags, ceramics and flagstone steps, wire fences, children's hobby horses, wooden furniture, bird cages. One shop even raises and packages worms for bait.

Many thousands of the retarded also enter employment in industry, for properly placed in jobs within their abilities, these workers are as productive as any others.

The vision of the future is a bright and exciting one. Those who pioneered in the field of mental retardation would be startled indeed at the advances which have come about in recent years. Those working today envision hope and help for America's 5,500,000 retarded, an annual saving of millions of tax dollars previously spent for their support, and the addition to our country's population of a growing host of good and useful citizens.

# AN UNFINISHED STORY by O. HENRY



William S. Porter, who wrote more than 600 short stories under the pen-name "O. Henry," was born in North Carolina. He first saw New York in 1902, at the age of 40, but his most important and memorable stories deal with the people of the big city he loved so well.

A number of his stories deal with the shop-girls who worked in New York's giant department stores. These girls were expected to keep body and soul together—and to be attractively dressed—on wages of five and six dollars week. O. Henry's indignation at this exploitation of working girls is best expressed in "An Unfinished Story," which appears here in full. While some of the language and some topical references reflect the fact that it was written more than a half century ago, its basic values remain.

**W**E NO LONGER GROAN and heap ashes upon our heads when the flames of Tophet are mentioned. For, even the preachers have begun to tell us that God is radium, or ether or some scientific compound, and that the worst we wicked ones may expect is a chemical reaction. This is a pleasing hypothesis; but there lingers yet some of the old, goodly terror of orthodoxy.

There are but two subjects upon which one may discourse with a free imagination, and without the possibility of being controverted. You may talk of your dreams; and you may tell what you heard a parrot say. Both Morpheus and the bird are incompetent witnesses; and your listener dare not attack your recital. The baseless fabric of a vision, then, shall furnish my theme—chosen with apologies and regrets instead of the more limited field of pretty Polly's small talk.

I had a dream that was so far removed from the higher criticism that it had to do with the ancient, respectable, and lamented bar-of-judgment theory.

Gabriel had played his trump; and those of us who could not follow suit were arraigned for examination. I noticed at one side a gathering of professional bondsmen in solemn black and collars that buttoned behind; but it seemed there was some trouble about their real estate titles; and they did not appear to be getting any of us out.

A fly cop—an angel policeman—flew over to me and took me by the left wing. Near at hand was a group of very prosperous-looking spirits arraigned for judgment.

"Do you belong with that bunch" the policeman asked.

"Who are they?" was my answer.

"Why," said he, "they are—"

But this irrelevant stuff is taking up space that the story should occupy.

Dulcie worked in a department store. She sold Hamburg edging, or stuffed peppers, or automobiles, or other little trinkets such as they keep in department stores. Of what she earned, Dulcie received six dollars per week. The remainder was credited to her and debited to somebody else's account in the ledger kept by G— Oh, primal energy, you say, Reverend Doctor—well, then, in the Ledger of Primal Energy.

During her first year in the store, Dulcie was paid five dollars per week. It would be instructive to know how she lived on that amount. Don't care? Very well; probably you are interested in larger amounts. Six dollars is a larger amount. I will tell you how she lived on six dollars per week.

One afternoon at six, when Dulcie was sticking her hat pin within an eighth of an inch of her *medulla oblongata*, she said to her chum, Sadie—the girl that waits on you with her left side:

"Say, Sadie, I made a date for dinner this evening with Piggy."

"You never did!" exclaimed Sadie, admiringly. "Well, ain't you the lucky one? Piggy's an awful swell; and he always takes a girl to swell places. He took Blanche up to the Hoffman House one evening, where they have swell music, and you see a lot of swells. You'll have a swell time, Dulcie."

Dulcie hurried homeward. Her eyes were shining, and her cheeks showed the delicate pink of life's—real life's—approaching dawn. It was Friday; and she had fifty cents left of her last week's wages.

The streets were filled with the rush-hour floods of people. The electric lights of Broadway were glowing—calling moths from miles, from leagues, from hundreds of leagues out of darkness around to come in and attend the singing school. Men in accurate clothes, with faces like those carved on cherry stones by the old salts in sailors' homes, turned and stared at Dulcie as she sped, unheeding, past them. Manhattan, the night-blooming cereus, was beginning to unfold its dead-white, heavy-odored petals.

Dulcie stopped in a store where goods were cheap and bought an imitation lace collar with her fifty cents. That money was to have been spent otherwise—fifteen cents for supper, ten cents for breakfast, ten cents for lunch. Another dime was to be added to her small store of savings; and five cents was to be squandered for licorice drops—the kind that made your cheek look like the toothache, and last as long. The lic-

orice was an extravagance—almost a carouse—but what is life without pleasures?

**D**ULCIE LIVED in a furnished room. There is this difference between a furnished room and a boarding-house. In a furnished room, other people do not know it when you go hungry.

Dulcie went up to her room—the third-floor-back in a West Side brownstone front. She lit the gas. Scientists tell us that the diamond is the hardest substance known. Their mistake. Land-ladies know of a compound beside which the diamond is as putty. They pack it in the tips of gas-burners; and one may stand on a chair and dig at it in vain until one's fingers are pink and bruised. A hairpin will not remove it; therefore let us call it immovable.

So Dulcie lit the gas. In its one-fourth-candle power glow we will observe the room.

Couch-bed, dresser, table, washstand, chair—of this much the landlady was guilty. The rest was Dulcie's. On the dresser were her treasures—a gilt china vase was presented to her by Sadie, a calendar issued by a pickle works, a book on the divination of dreams, some rice powder in a glass dish, and a cluster of artificial cherries tied with a pink ribbon.

Against the wrinkly mirror stood pictures of General Kitchener, William Muldoon, the Duke of Marlborough, and Benvenuto Cellini. Against one wall was a plaster of Paris plaque of an O'Callahan in a Roman helmet. Near it was a violent oleograph of a lemon-colored child assaulting an inflammatory butterfly. This was Dulcie's final judgment in art; but it had never been upset. Her rest had never been disturbed by whispers of stolen copies; no critic had elevated his eyebrows at her infantile entomologist.

Piggy was to call for her at seven. While she swiftly makes ready, let us discreetly face the other way and gossip.

For the room, Dulcie paid two dollars per week. On weekdays her breakfast cost ten cents; she made coffee and cooked an egg over the gas-light while she was dressing. On Sunday mornings she feasted royally on veal chops and pine-apple fritters at "Billy's" restaurant, at a cost of twenty-five cents—and tipped the waitress ten cents. New York presents so many temptations for one to run into extravagance. She had her lunches in the department-store restaurant at a cost of sixty cents for the week; dinners were \$1.05. The evening papers—show me a New Yorker going without his daily paper!—came to six cents; and two Sunday papers—one for the personal column and the other to read—were ten

(Continued on Next Page)

(Continued from preceding page)

cents. The total amounts to \$4.76. Now, one has to buy clothes, and—

I give it up. I hear of wonderful bargains in fabrics, and of miracles performed with needle and thread; but I am in doubt. I hold my pen poised in vain when I would add to Dulcie's life some of those joys that belong to woman by virtue of all the unwritten, sacred, natural, inactive ordinances of the equity of heaven. Twice she had been to Coney Island and had ridden the hobby-horses. 'Tis a weary thing to count your pleasures by summers instead of by hours.

Piggy needs but a word. When the girls named him, an undeserving stigma was cast upon the noble family of swine. The words-of-three-letters lesson in the old blue spelling book begins with Piggy's biography. He was fat; he had the soul of a rat, the habits of a bat, and the magnanimity of a cat.... He wore expensive clothes; and was a connoisseur in starvation. He could look at a shop-girl and tell you to an hour how long it had been since she had eaten anything more nourishing than marshmallows and tea. He hung about the shopping districts, and prowled around in department stores with his invitations to dinner. Men who escort dogs upon the streets at the end of a string look down upon him. He is a type, I can dwell upon him no longer, my pen is not the kind intended for him; I am no carpenter.

At ten minutes to seven Dulcie was ready. She looked at herself in the wrinkly mirror. The reflection was satisfactory. The dark blue dress, fitting without a wrinkle, the hat with its jaunty black feather, the but-slightly-soiled gloves—all representing self-denial, even of food itself—were vastly becoming.

Dulcie forgot everything else for a moment except that she was beautiful, and that life was about to lift a corner of its mysterious veil for her to observe its wonders. No gentleman had ever asked her out before. Now she was going for a brief moment into the glitter and exalted show.

The girls said that Piggy was a "spender." There would be a grand dinner, and music, and splendidly dressed ladies to look at and things to eat that strangely twisted the girls' jaws when they tried to tell about them. No doubt she would be asked out again.

There was a blue pongee suit in a window that

she knew—by saving twenty cents a week instead of ten in—let's see—Oh, it would run into years! But there was a second-hand store in Seventh Avenue where—

**S**OMEBODY KNOCKED at the door. Dulcie opened it. The landlady stood there with a spurious smile, sniffing for cooking by stolen gas.

"A gentleman's downstairs to see you," she said. "Name is Mr. Wiggins."

By such epithet was Piggy known to unfortunate ones who had to take him seriously.

Dulcie turned to the dresser to get her handkerchief; and then she stopped still, and bit her underlip hard. While looking in her mirror she had seen fairyland and herself, a princess, just awakening from a long slumber. She had forgotten one that was watching her with sad, beautiful, stern eyes—the only one there was to approve or condemn what she did. Straight and slender and tall, with a look of sorrowful reproach on his handsome, melancholy face, General Kitchener fixed his wonderful eyes on her out of his gilt photograph frame on the dresser.

Dulcie turned like an automatic doll to the landlady.

"Tell him I can't go," she said, dully. "Tell him I'm sick, or something. Tell him I'm not going out."

After the door was closed and locked, Dulcie fell upon her bed, crushing her black tip, and cried for ten minutes. General Kitchener was her only friend. He was Dulcie's ideal of a gallant knight. He looked as if he might have a secret sorrow, and his wonderful moustache was a dream, and she was a little afraid of that stern yet tender look in his eyes. She used to have little fancies that he would call at the house sometime, and ask for her, with his sword clanking against his high boots. Once, when a boy was rattling a piece of chain against a lamp post she had opened the window and looked out. But there was no use. She knew that General Kitchener was away over in Japan, leading his army against the savage Turks; and he would never step out of his gilt frame for her. Yet one look from him had vanquished Piggy that night. Yes, for that night.

When her cry was over Dulcie got up and took

off her best dress, and put on her old blue kimono. She wanted no dinner. She sang two verses of "Sammy". Then she became intensely interested in a little red speck on the side of her nose. And after that was attended to, she drew up a chair to the rickety table, and told her fortune with an old deck of cards.

"The horrid, impudent thing!" she said aloud. "And I never gave him a word or a look to make him think it!"

At nine o'clock Dulcie took a tin box of crackers and a little pot of raspberry jam out of her trunk and had a feast. She offered General Kitchener some jam on a cracker, but he only looked at her as the sphinx would have looked at a butterfly—if there are butterflies in the desert.

"Don't eat it if you don't want to," said Dulcie. "And don't put on so many airs and scold so with your eyes. I wonder if you'd be so superior and snippy if you had to live on six dollars a week."

It was not a good sign for Dulcie to be rude to General Kitchener. And then she turned Benvenuto Cellini face downward with a severe gesture. But that was not inexcusable; for she had always thought he was Henry VIII, and she did not approve of him.

At half-past nine Dulcie took a last look at the pictures on the dresser, turned out the light and skipped into bed. It's an awful thing to go to bed with a good-night look at General Kitchener, William Muldoon, the Duchess of Marlborough, and Benvenuto Cellini.

This story doesn't really get anywhere at all. The rest of it comes later—sometime when Piggy asks Dulcie again to dine with him, and she is feeling lonelier than usual, and General Kitchener happens to be looking the other way; and then—

As I said before, I dreamed that I was standing near a crowd of prosperous-looking angels, and a policeman took me by the wing and asked if I belonged with them.

"Who are they?" I asked.

"Why," said he, "they are the men who hired working-girls, and paid 'em five or six dollars a week to live on. Are you one of the bunch?"

"Not on your immortality," said I. "I'm only a fellow that set fire to an orphan asylum, and murdered a blind man for his pennies."



## Offers Advice on Fighting Communism

To the Editor:

This is a reply to Mr. Arnold Rose and to others like him who ask, in regards to the advance of Communism, "What can the average individual do about all this?"

In the first place we must quit being "average individuals." The average individual doesn't do anything. We imagine a St. George will show up to slay the dragon for us.

Our worst enemy isn't Communism. It is apathy. We have allowed ourselves and our government to digress so far from the principles laid out by our founding fathers that little of the original is left. Communists will never be defeated until we put first things first. When the Berlin crisis began to warm up a bit, Kennedy asked for about 3 billion more dollars to "bolster our defenses" a bit. No one seemed to object. The soft thinking on this was—with a defense budget of about 41 billion a year, why were we not ready to having the last brass button polished?

The same sort of thinking has been going on for years and years. No matter how blundering and tragic the mistakes, excuses are made to a soft-headed pop-

ulace which goes right on being "average individuals" who do nothing.

Literally millions of people are asking, "What can I do?" If each of us would resolve two simple things: To do a little himself, and to persuade others to do a little too, Communism will be defeated. If we choose to stand around wringing our hands, we are lost.

RICHARD A. WICKENS  
Anderson, Md.

## Asks Why Fight For United Germany?

To the Editor:

In the Sept. 10 issue of The Record brother Arnold Rose asked, "What can be done about the war threat?"

This is surely a very timely and urgent question. We all dread a nuclear war, where the chances of survival are very slim. Therefore it is only natural to ask, "What is there so important about Germany and the Berlin crisis that we have to sacrifice our lives for it in a nuclear war?" What do we care if there are two Germanys? We have two Koreas, two Chinas, and we don't fight for these countries to be united. Why should we fight for a united Germany?

In our lifetime Germany waged two wars. They killed and maimed millions of people, Americans included. In the last

war they burned people alive. The atrocities they committed are hard even to imagine. When the war ended our great President Franklin D. Roosevelt and our allies made an agreement in Potsdam that German militarism must be destroyed so that it should never again threaten the peace of the world.

Now, after sixteen years, we are determined to make Germany one united country and we are sending our boys to fight for it. The workers and all humane people should let our President and government know that we don't want a devastating war for the sake of a strong Germany. What we need is disarmament and peace for our country and for the world.

SOPHIE ROSENFIELD  
Bronx, N.Y.

## Says Current Laws Can Curb Slumlords

To the Editor:

Mr. Lishinsky, after properly and concisely evaluating Mayor Wagner's corruption-ridden administration in a letter (Record, Sept. 10), asked if the city can't pass laws to properly control landlords.

Actually, no new laws are needed as those on the books are more than adequate to deal with any type of rental property management—be it a slightly

careless landlord or one of the criminally negligent types. Under the existing building and housing code, a slumlord could be fined up to \$25,000 for 100 violations and put in jail long enough to discourage his type of operation—if we had corruption-free law enforcement.

HUGH CASHMAN  
New York City

## 'Something in Record For Everyone'

To the Editor:

There's something in The Record for everyone! My sister-in-law, a Long Island housewife, loves Jane Goodsell—and thought her column in the Aug. 27 issue ("Help Me Forget") was the best yet. And, in the same issue, the "Individual Bargaining" cartoon had a strong effect on an anti-union neighbor, although not quite enough to change his vote in an impending election.

In another issue, another neighbor found the advice on buying an encyclopedia by Sidney Margolius came just too late—he had only recently fallen prey to the blandishments of a door-to-door salesman and gone hook, line and sinker for a deal which he is only now realizing is going to cost him far more than it is worth.

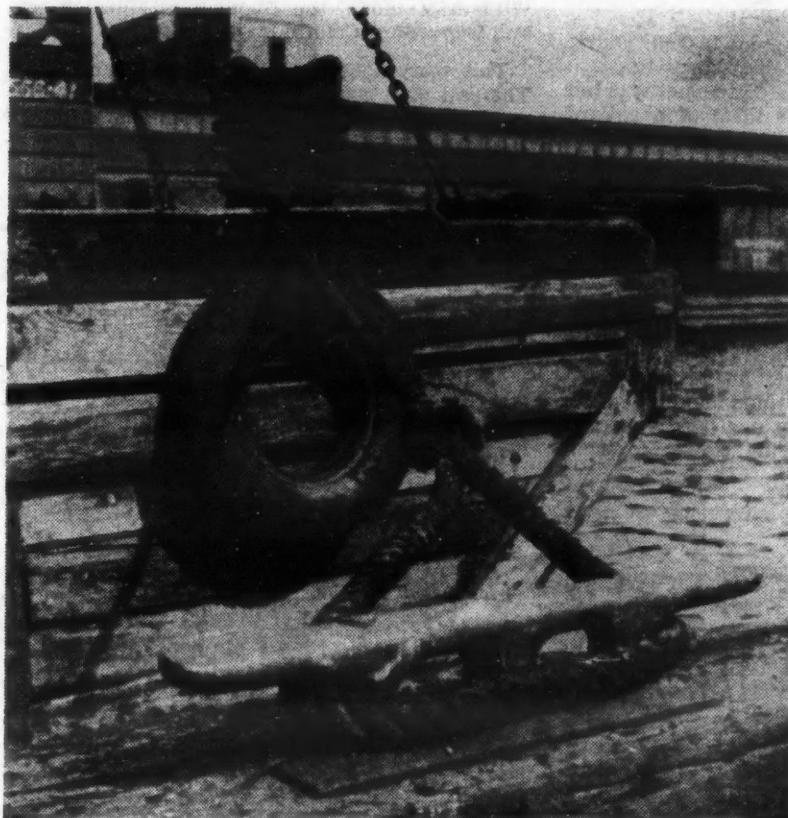
CHARLES BALDWIN  
Elizabeth, N.J.

# Foto Contest Winners

By SHEILA M. SINGER

The RWDSU Record Photo Contest draws to a close with a flourish of fine photographs. So many good pictures came in just before the Record's deadline that we had to pick two for honorable mention as well as three regular prizewinners. Checks for \$5 each go to Marvin Heller, Joseph Blinder and Eugene Rhodes, all of New York.

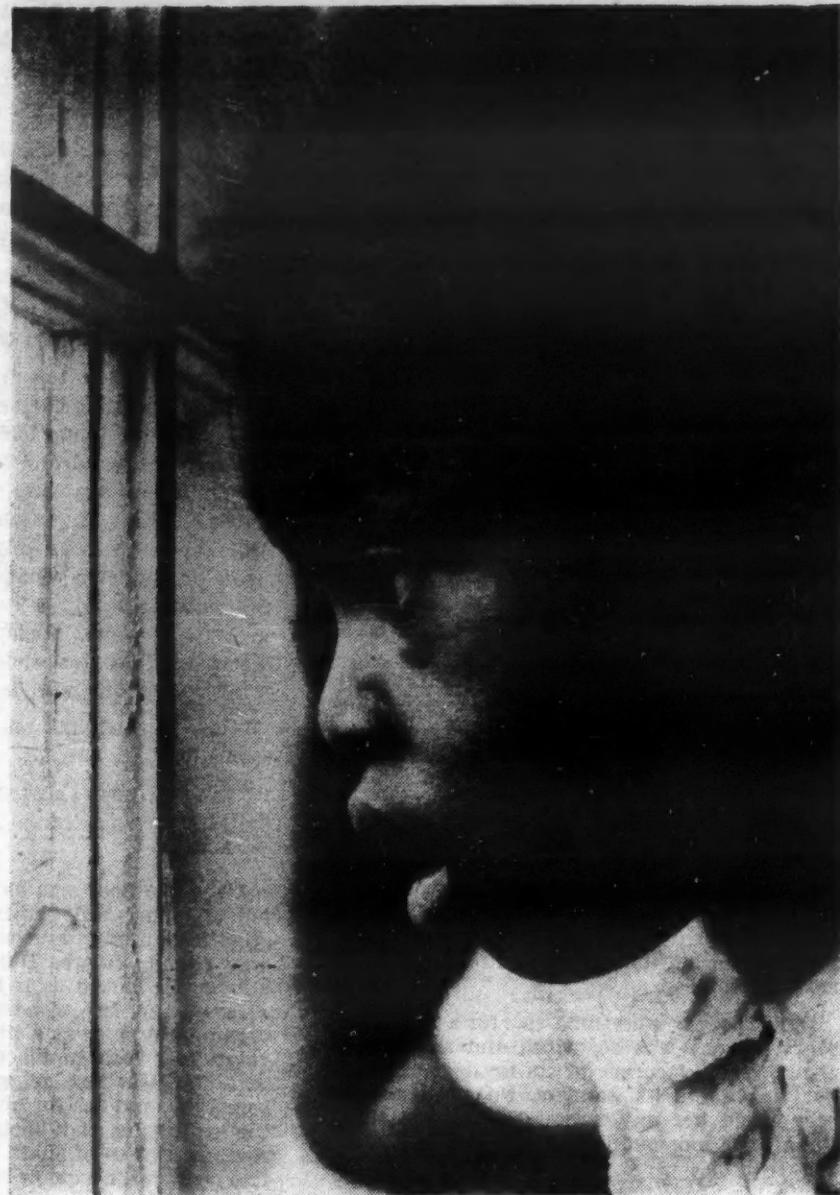
If you've been following the contest closely, you know there's a difficult (but pleasant) task ahead of us now. A grand prizewinner must be selected from all the wonderful photos that have appeared in the last six issues of The Record. Which photograph will capture the \$25 grand prize? Watch for the next issue of The Record for the grand prize winner.



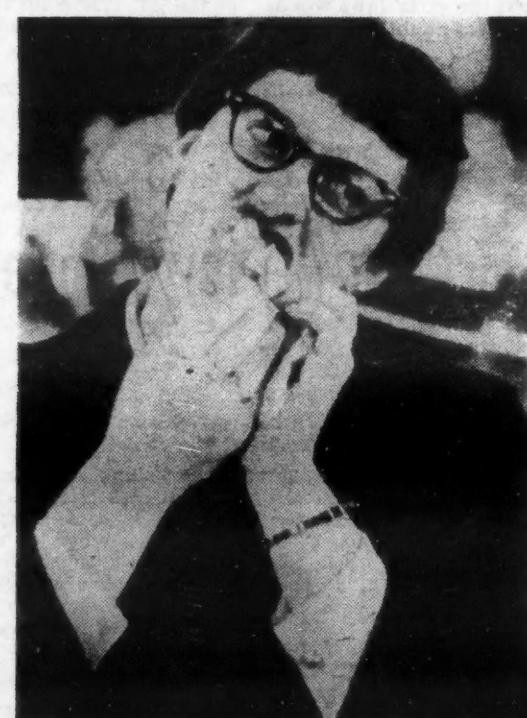
Dock scene by Marvin Heller (Local 1199)



Portrait of artist Maurice Kish by Joseph Blinder (District 65)

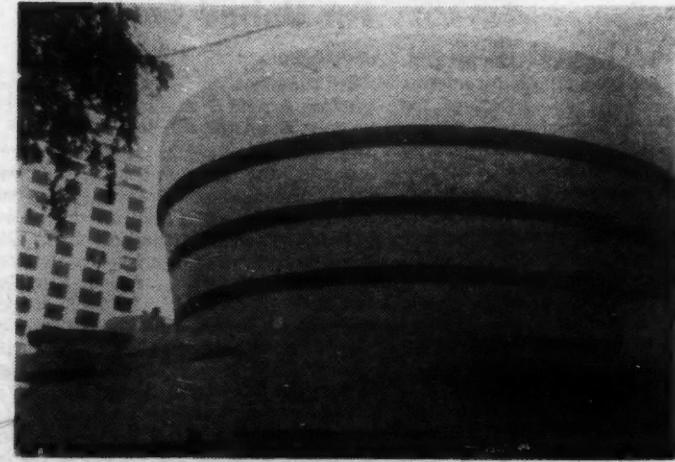


Study of his child by Eugene Rhodes (Local 1199)



## Honorable Mention

Deserving of special attention are these two photos submitted to The Record's Photo Contest. While they missed out as prizewinners, they show high quality. At left, a candid shot by Bea Eckstein; below, a snapshot of the controversial Guggenheim Museum by Walter Sobel. Both photos are members of District 65, New York.



# lighter side of the record



—Record drawing by Marjorie Glaubach

## I'm Afraid He's Normal

By JANE GOODSELL

Parents of a new baby almost always buttonhole the doctor to ask the same anxious question: "Does it have all its fingers and toes?"

As the child grows older, its parents are assailed by new worries. One of these is the growing conviction that the child is hard of hearing. This alarm is brought on by incidents such as this:

Mother (speaking in a normal, conversational tone and standing about two feet away) tells the child to get washed for dinner. When the child appears at the table, obviously unwashed, mother asks why he didn't do as he was told. Child, with genuine sincerity, replies that he didn't hear her.

Therefore, the child must be hard of hearing, isn't he? The answer is no.

To save parents the expense of consulting an ear specialist, a simple experiment may be conducted in one's own home:

Parents, sitting side by side on the davenport and speaking in sneaky whispers, discuss the possibility of taking the children to a ball game that evening.

Normal children, whether they are in the next room having a fight or three houses down the street, will appear promptly to announce that they're all ready to go and it's going to be a double-header.

This same ball game may be utilized to calm parents' fears that their child is the victim of a dread disease because he refuses to eat.

Let us assume that the child has been presented by his mother with three wholesome, attractive meals a day; and that he has pushed all of them aside with the plaintive announcement that he isn't hungry. Is the child sick?

The answer is yes if he can sit through the first inning without demanding at least one each of the following: ice cream stick, peanuts, candy bars, popcorn and hotdogs with,

lots of mustard.

The average child is also apt to provide his parents with plenty of cause for worry about his vision. For instance, the child is sent upstairs to pick up the clothes lying on the floor of his room.

When his mother goes to check on his accomplishments, she finds a sock, two handkerchiefs, a pajama top and a banana peel still on the floor.

The child, presented with the evidence, replies that he didn't see it. Is the child's vision faulty?

The following test may prove helpful in determining the answer: A child of two should spot a half-eaten candy bar lying in the gutter at 20 paces. A child of six should not pass within 20 blocks of a merry-go-round without seeing it. A child of ten should read, at a distance of 12,000 feet, a billboard announcing the arrival of a circus.

No child of any age should be expected to see the dirt under his fingernails.



COTTON PICKING QUEEN:—That's what Phoenix calls Gwen Gayle. To prove it they pose her on a bale of Arizona cotton.

### Ticklers



### By George

### Paradox of Our Times



"C'mawn, Virgil — this is no time to take a bow!"

### Life With The Ripples



### By Les Carroll



# Yankees?

# Cincinnati?

Who  
will  
win  
the  
World  
Series

?

## PICK THE WINNER -- \$50 IN PRIZES

**\$25 1st Prize**

**\$15 2nd Prize**

**\$10 3rd Prize**

### CONTEST RULES

1. Open to all RWDSU members. There is no entry fee.
2. Winners will be judged on accuracy of their predictions.
3. Entries must be postmarked not later than Tuesday, Oct. 3.

I predict the ..... will win the Series in ..... games.

I predict scores of each game will be:

1st game: Reds..... Yanks.....

5th game: Reds..... Yanks.....

2nd game: Reds..... Yanks.....

6th game: Reds..... Yanks.....

3rd game: Reds..... Yanks.....

7th game: Reds..... Yanks.....

4th game: Reds..... Yanks.....

(Fill in scores for as many games  
as you predict Series will go)

YOUR NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

LOCAL No. .... EMPLOYED AT .....

Fill in coupon, clip and mail to

RECORD BASEBALL CONTEST, 132 W. 43 Street, New York 36, N. Y.